



SUPREME COURT
STATE OF ARIZONA
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

ROBERT BRUTINEL
CHIEF JUSTICE

DAVE BYERS
DIRECTOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
OF THE COURTS

October 5 and 6, 2020 Online NCBE Bar Exam FAQs

Is the October examination a Uniform Bar Examination (UBE)?

No. The October exam is an alternative to the July 2020 in-person UBE exam. The results of the October exam will be valid only for practice in Arizona. (Note: Some states giving the remote exam are discussing entering into a reciprocity agreement. Until any such agreement is reached, the exam is valid only in Arizona).

Is there a fee for taking the October exam remotely?

Yes. Examinees will pay a fee directly to the vendor that is providing the testing software. More information will be provided directly to examinees.

How is the October exam administered? What technology is required?

Examinees may take the remote exam at their home or another location of their choice. The location must have internet access to begin the exam and at the close of the exam. The device used to take the exam must have a built-in camera or a webcam for the check-in and for remote proctoring of the exam. Additional information will be provided to examinees as soon as it is available. Like the in-person exam, there is a fee paid directly to the vendor to take the remote exam. The fee will be equal to or less than the fee paid for the in-person exam.

What if I do not have access to a space that is quiet, private, or that has reliable internet access?

The Attorney Admissions department can provide a limited number of spaces for examinees who cannot locate an appropriate testing environment. Examinees may contact Attorney Admissions for assistance.

Will I be able to transfer my October exam score to another jurisdiction administering the same remote exam?

Not currently. Arizona has not entered reciprocity agreements with other jurisdictions for the October exam.

(Note: Some states giving the remote exam are discussing entering into a reciprocity agreement. Until any such agreement is reached, the exam is valid only in Arizona).

Does October's remote exam have any impact on the character and fitness process?

No. Character and fitness requirements remain the same.

What is the minimum score requirement to pass the October examination?

The Arizona Supreme Court will post this information as soon as it is available. Unlike a UBE exam that is scaled and scored based on national results, the October exam will be scored and scaled based on Arizona results.

How will the October examination be graded?

Multiple choice questions will be scored by the national vendor. Essays will be graded by the Committee on Examinations and by graders who are approved by the Committee. Graders are the same graders who score the July exam.

When will October examination results be released?

Because Arizona will not need to wait for nationally scaled and scored results, and due to a smaller pool of examinees, we anticipate the grading can be accomplished quicker than it takes to grade the July exam. October results are anticipated between mid-November and early December.

Are the October test materials created and distributed by the National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE)?

The NCBE created the remote examination. It will consist of 3 Multistate Essay Exam (MEE) questions, 1 Multistate Performance Test (MPT) item, and 100 Multistate Bar Examination (MBE) questions. The questions cover the same subject matters as a UBE test.

Will the October examination questions be Arizona specific?

No, the examination questions are not Arizona specific.

Is the October examination open book?

No. The exam is administered in four, 90-minute sessions over two days. The examination software monitors the test taker's presence and activity to flag conduct for further review.

Will the exam materials be printable?

No. The exam will be administered electronically through software. Examinees should anticipate making notes on the computer and not using paper for notes or drafts.

What if I need technical assistance during the exam?

One of the requirements for the online exam is that cell phones are not allowed in the testing space while testing. Instructions will include how to pause the exam if needed to retrieve your phone and obtain technical support. This pause does not impact your testing time. Examinees are strongly encouraged to test the software and its features before the start of the exam. Advanced testing of the software drastically reduces the need for troubleshooting during the exam.

Will examinees be required to be physically present in Arizona at the time of examination?

No. Applicants may take the exam in their residence or at another location appropriate for an online exam.

If an individual applied for accommodations for the July 2020 exam, does the accommodation request or approval transfer/apply to the October 2020 exam?

Yes, previously submitted accommodation requests will be transferred to October and individuals will not be asked to provide additional information unless needed by the Committee on Examinations to make the accommodation determination.

Will the October examination affect an individual's Rule 39(c) status if the individual does not take the October examination?

No. Administrative Order [2020-80](#) requires that the individual must sit for a uniform bar examination no later than February 2021. However, if individuals take and fail to pass the October examination, they would lose Rule 39 status.

If an individual transferred from the July exam to the October exam but still wants to have a UBE score and takes the February exam as well, what is the cost?

Fees paid for July will transfer to October or February but not for both. The cost of the February examination remains unchanged.

May an individual who was registered for the July exam transfer to the October remote exam?

Individuals who withdrew from the July exam after July 10 can apply for the October examination by the August 7 deadline but will have to pay the application fee as a new applicant.

If an individual did not request transfer by July 10th, and is subsequently barred from taking the July examination for COVID-related reasons, would the individual be able to sign up for the October examination?

Yes. If the individual provides verification that they were physically unable to take or complete the July exam, the individual may apply for a refund or to transfer their registration to the October 2020 or February 2021 exam.

If an applicant did not apply to sit for the July examination, when will applications be available to take the October examination?

Applications will begin being accepted on August 3rd. The Attorney Admissions department will post the application and information about the application process at <https://www.azcourts.gov/cld/Attorney-Admissions>.

What if I have a question that hasn't been answered?

Check this document, as it will be updated over time, and check related websites first for answers to frequently asked questions:

- Arizona Attorney Admissions: <https://www.azcourts.gov/cld/Attorney-Admissions>
- National Conference of Bar Examiners: <http://www.ncbex.org/>

The Attorney Admissions department has an email inbox for questions about the October 2020 bar exam. Note that necessary preparations may delay or prevent responding to individual questions or answering questions that have been posted online, that have already been emailed directly to examinees, or that are unrelated to the administration of the October bar exam. The email address is: AZOctoberBar@azcourts.onmicrosoft.com.

###

Last revised 7/24/2020

1501 WEST WASHINGTON STREET • PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007-3231 • 602-452-3301 • (FAX) 602-452-3484 • (TDD) 602-452-3545